This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An information providing system, comprising:

a database storing price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases <u>from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier</u>; and

display control means for displaying price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases <u>and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier</u> stored in said database on display means.

2.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 1, wherein

said display control means displays unit price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases.

3.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 2, wherein

said display control means displays the unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

4.   (Original)   The system according to claim 2, wherein

said display control means displays an amount of money based on a present currency of the bases.

5.   (Original)   The system according to claim 4, wherein

said display control means further displays an exchange rate.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 2, wherein

said display control means displays a difference in unit price among objects purchased at

said plurality of bases.

7.   (Original)   The system according to claim 1, wherein

said display control means further displays cost cutting information.

Claims 8-13   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended) An information providing system, comprising:

a database storing material information including amount-of-money information and/or

unit price information about materials purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding

supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier;

specifying means for specifying material; and

control means for displaying material information including the amount-of-money

information and/or the unit price information about the materials purchased at the plurality of

bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material

specified by said specifying means and stored in said database.

15.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 14, wherein

said database stores resin material information and/or [a] mechanical parts material information.

Claims 16-17 (Canceled)

18.   (Original)   The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores weight information about materials.

19.   (Original)   The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores material information and products; and

said control means displays information about the products in which the materials specified by said specifying means are used after searching said database for the information.

20.   (Original)   The system according to claim 14, wherein said database stores at least one of specification information, approved color information, and environment information about materials.

21.   (Currently Amended) An information providing method, comprising:

the step of storing price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database; and

the display controlling step of displaying price information about the objects purchased at said plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier stored in said database on display means.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein said display controlling step displays unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said display controlling step displays the unit price information about the objects purchased at the plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein said display controlling step displays an amount of money based on a present currency of the bases.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24, wherein said display controlling step further displays an exchange rate.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein said display controlling step displays a difference in unit price among objects purchased at said plurality of bases.

27.   (Original)   The method according to claim 21, wherein

said display controlling step further displays cost cutting information.

Claims 28-33 (Canceled)

34.   (Currently Amended) An information providing method, comprising:

the step of storing material information including amount-of-money information and/or

unit price information about materials purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding

supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database;

the specifying step of specifying material; and

the controlling step of displaying material information including the amount-of-money

information and/or the unit price information about the materials purchased at the plurality of

bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material

specified in said specifying step and stored in said database.

35.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 34, wherein

said database stores resin material information and/or [a] mechanical parts material

information.

Claims 36-37 (Canceled)

38.   (Original)   The method according to claim 34, wherein

said database stores weight information about materials.

39.   (Original)   The method according to claim 34, wherein

said database stores material information and products; and

said controlling step displays information about the products in which the materials

specified in said specifying step are used after searching said database for the information.

40.   (Original)   The method according to claim 34, wherein

said database stores at least one of specification information, approved color information,

and environment information about materials.

41.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing computer-readable

instructions for causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

the step of storing price information about objects purchased at a plurality of bases from a

corresponding supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database;

and

the display controlling step of displaying price information about the objects purchased at

said plurality of bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier stored in said

database on display means.

42.   (Previously Presented)   The medium according to claim 41, wherein

said display controlling step displays unit price information about the objects purchased

at said plurality of bases.

43.   (Previously Presented)   The medium according to claim 42, wherein

said display controlling step displays the unit price information about the objects

purchased at said plurality of bases, and a total quantity and/or a total amount of money.

Claims 44-45 (Canceled)

46.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing computer-readable

instructions for causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

the step of storing material information including amount-of-money information and/or

unit price information about materials purchased at a plurality of bases from a corresponding

supplier, and information of the plurality of bases and the supplier in a database;

the specifying step of specifying material; and

the controlling step of displaying material information including the amount-of-money

information and/or the unit price information about the materials purchased at the plurality of

bases and the information of the plurality of bases and the supplier corresponding to the material

specified in said specifying step and stored in said database.

47.   (Original)   The medium according to claim 46, wherein

said database stores material information and products; and

said controlling step displays information about the products in which the materials

specified in said specifying step are used after searching said database for the information.